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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from the Kindel Troop Training Area

EVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 5 June 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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On 16 May 1953, the first practice was observed in the Kindel training area. At 8:30 a.m., tanks and infantry left Camp Kindel. The practice proceeded from east to west at the southern border of the training area, south of the edge of the woods. Three blocks of tanks first moved side by side, with each third tank somewhat to the left forward of the others. After pivoting, the tanks advanced in stagger formation, with the first formation including two waves, each of 7 tanks which, source thought, were T-34/85 tanks, followed by 9 heavy tanks and, as last formation, 7 heavy tanks [redacted] were JS-3 tanks. The heavy tanks were more deeply echeloned than the T-34 tanks. About 500 infantry soldiers were seen with the first formation of the heavy tanks. The practice ended at 11:30 a.m. [redacted]

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Comment. The practice involving tanks is fairly definitely believed to have been conducted by the 17th Gds Tank SP Regt of the 57th G's Mtz Rifle Div. The heavy tanks probably were the 16 SP guns of the regiment. [redacted]

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